



Valley Water

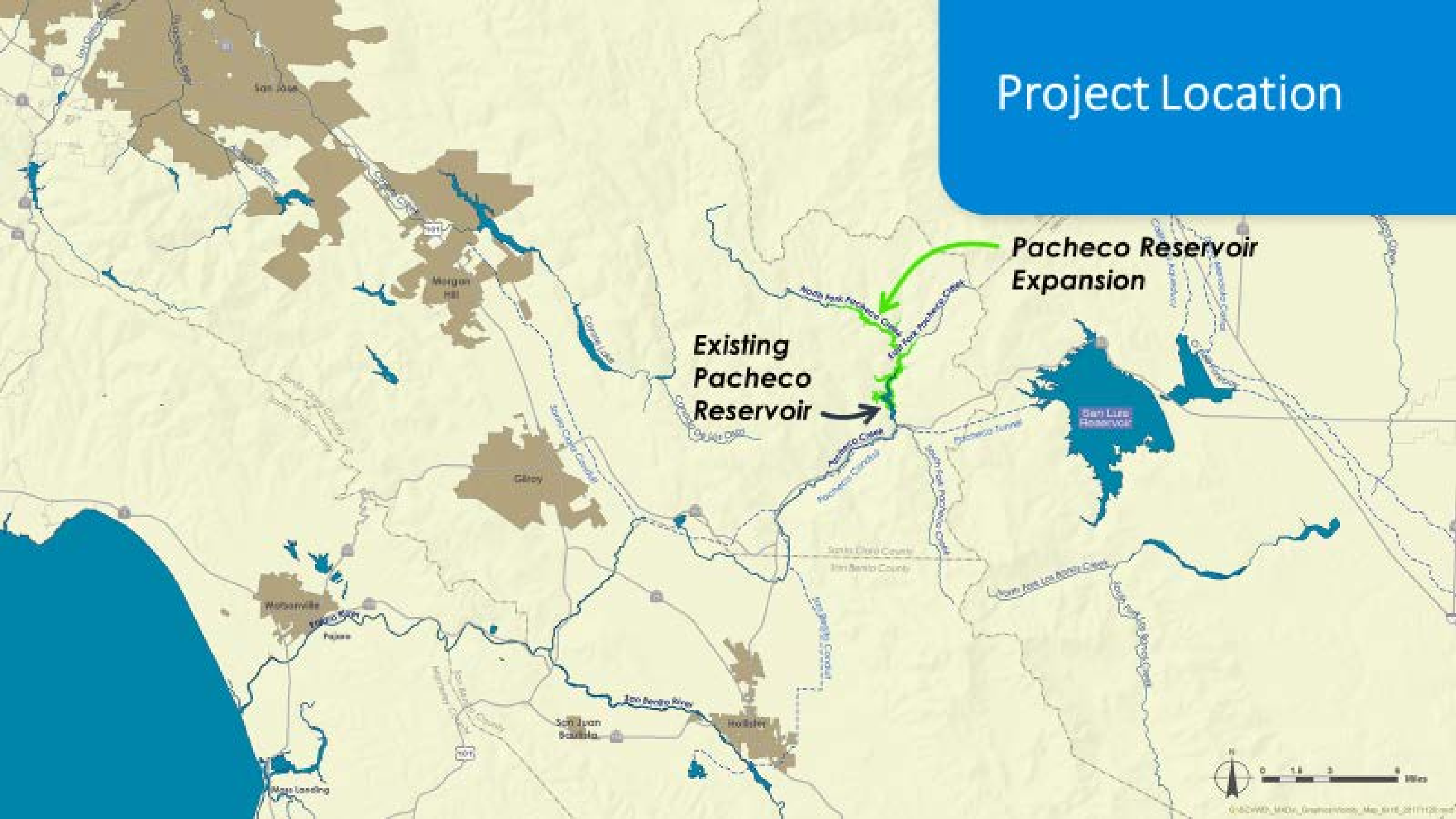
Clean Water • Healthy Environment • Flood Protection



Pacheco Reservoir Expansion Project

EPA Environmental Review Meeting
May 2, 2022

Project Location



CEQA Process Status



Comments on Draft EIR

- 16 comment submittals from federal, state, regional agencies
- 1 comment submittal from Ahmuh Mutsun Tribal Band
- 19 comment submittals from organizations
- 152 comment submittals from individuals; 40 unique and 112 form letters



Pictured above: Existing Pacheco Reservoir

Comment Content Analysis

- All agency and organizational comments coded to-date
- All coded comments will be incorporated into Excel file that allows for sorting/filtering
- Content of comments will undergo analysis to identify and prioritize substantive comments for future consideration and/or response



Pictured above: Existing Pacheco Reservoir

Agency Engagement and Partner Engagement



Agency Engagement

- Working closely with Reclamation, USFWS, NMFS, California Department of Fish and Wildlife, and State Water Board for past 3 years
- Engagement through series of 18 workshops focused primarily on long-term water operations (e.g., flow release schedule for fisheries) and biological resources
- Valley Water will resume workshops to resolve agency comments on Draft EIR



Pictured above: Pacheco Creek below Existing North Fork Dam

Partner Engagement

Water Storage Investment Program

- California Water Commission
- California Department of Fish and Wildlife (contracts for ecosystem benefits)
- California Department of Water Resources

San Luis Low Point Improvement Project

- Reclamation

Other Partners

- Pacheco Pass Water District (existing dam owner/water right holder)
- San Benito County Water District



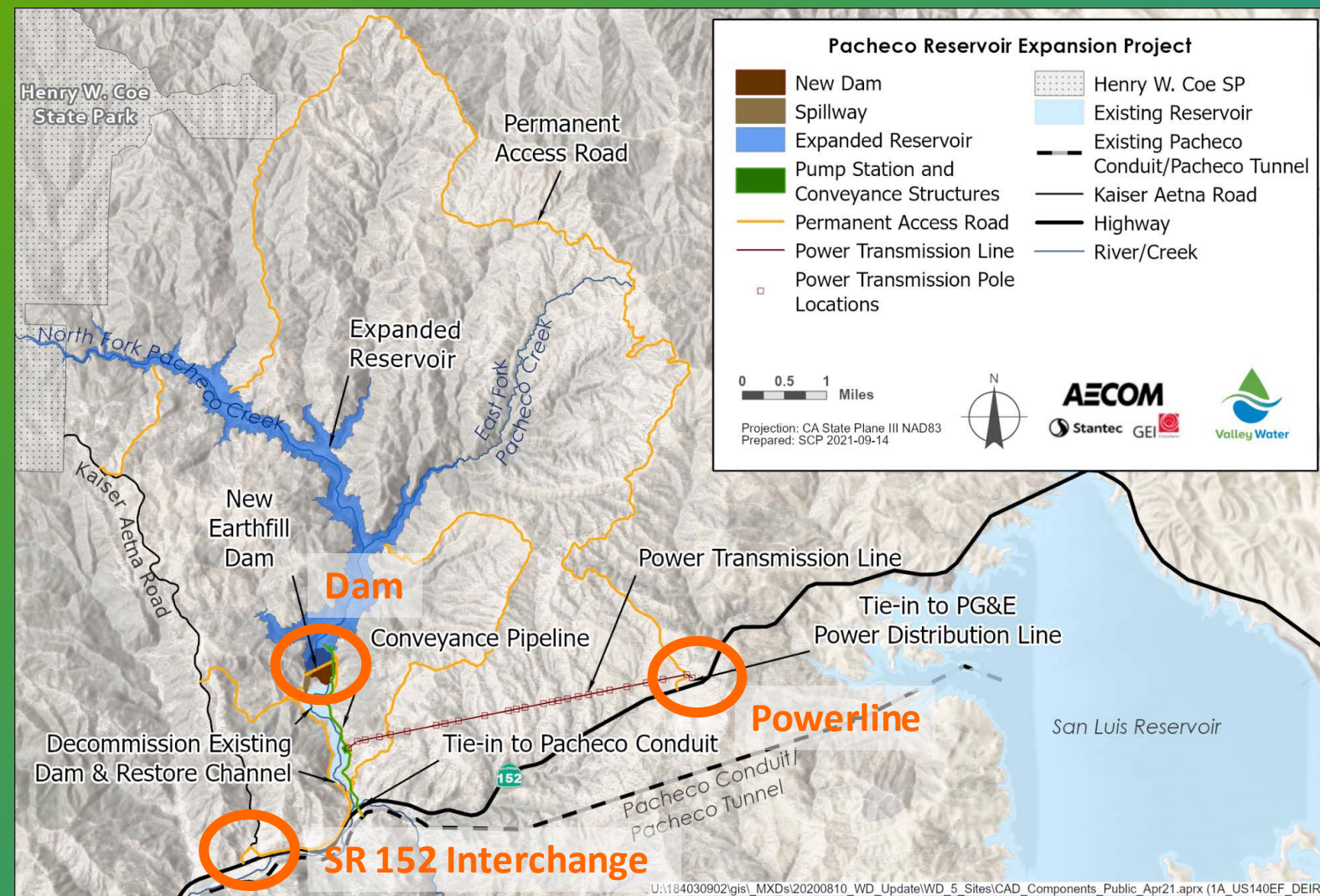
Pictured above: Existing Pacheco Reservoir

Key Refinements to Proposed Project



Key Refinements to Facilities

- Change to earthfill dam; refinements of earthfill dam design (California Department of Safety of Dams)
- Eastern extension of powerline (PG&E)
- SR 152 interchange type (Caltrans)



Key Considerations for Long-Term Water Operations

- Flow release schedule to Pacheco Creek for fisheries developed through series of workshops with agencies
- Contract with California Department of Fish and Wildlife for fisheries benefits through Water Storage Investment Program
- Federal ESA consultation with NOAA Fisheries/NMFS



NEPA/CEQA Agencies



Lead, Cooperating, Responsible & Trustee Agencies

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NEPA

- Environmental Protection Agency
- Bureau of Reclamation
- U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
- NOAA Fisheries
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

CEQA

- Santa Clara Valley Water District
- State Water Resources Control Board
- California Department of Fish and Wildlife
- California Department of Parks and Recreation
- California Public Utilities Commission

Reclamation Nexus for PREP and/or SLLPIP

Item	Considerations	Action/Approval
Construction and operation/maintenance of tie-in to Pacheco Conduit		- Review/approval of designs
Construction and operation/maintenance of powerlines/power facilities on Reclamation lands		- Granting of easement/Right-of-Way
Conveyance of water from expanded reservoir via Pacheco/Santa Clara Conduits	Option 1 – New transmission line and expanded reservoir part of Reclamation’s CVP conveyance facilities Option 2 – CVP water delivered to new tie-in on Pacheco Conduit; Warren Act contract required for conveyance of water from expanded reservoir to treatment/recharge/Anderson Dam Other considerations: Conveyance of SWP supplies (modify existing Warren Act contract?)	Option 1 - TBD Option 2 – Issuance of Warrant Act contract
Transfer of 2,000 acre-feet of Valley Water CVP allocation in Below Normal years to IL4 Refuges	Option 1 – Transfer of Valley Water CVP allocation to CDFW (for their distribution to IL4 refuges) – WSIP funding Option 2 – Transfer of Valley Water CVP allocation to Reclamation for distribution to IL4 refuges	Option 1 – Long-term transfer agreement (would CDFW require this?) Option 2 – Long-term transfer agreement
WIIN Act funding for Federal benefits for Project implementation through SLLPIP Feasibility Study process		Approval of construction funding by the Secretary of Interior

Outstanding Technical Studies



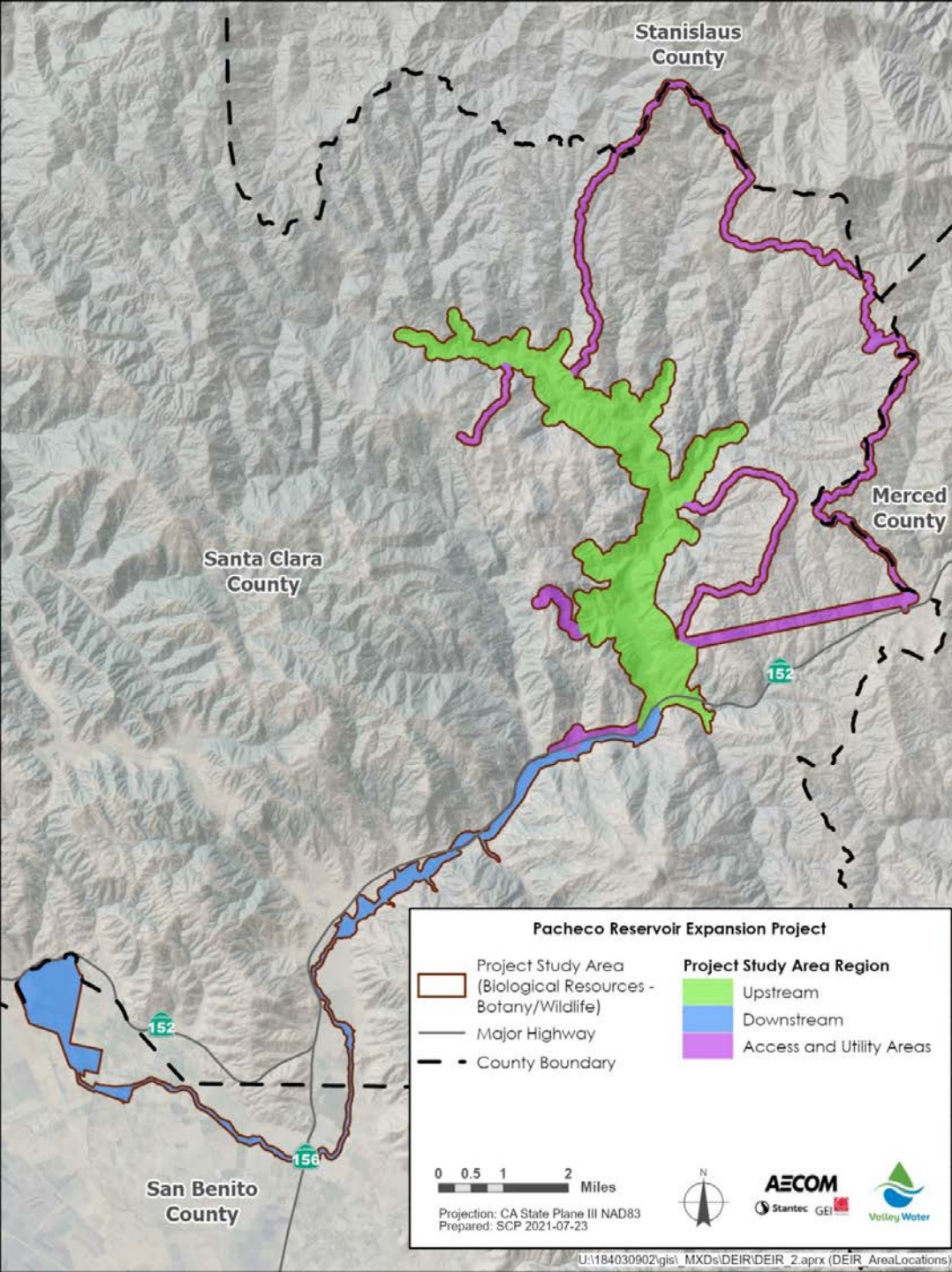
Location of Impacts

Project Study Area:

- Defined for each of the twenty resource areas in consideration of impacts from construction and long-term operations and maintenance
- Varies amongst resource areas

Example: Biological Resources: Botanical/Wildlife Project Study Area

- *Upstream (primary construction areas, new reservoir inundation areas, channel restoration areas)*
- *Access and Utility Areas (additional construction areas for roads and power lines)*
- *Downstream (no construction activities but changes in stream flows and temperatures)*



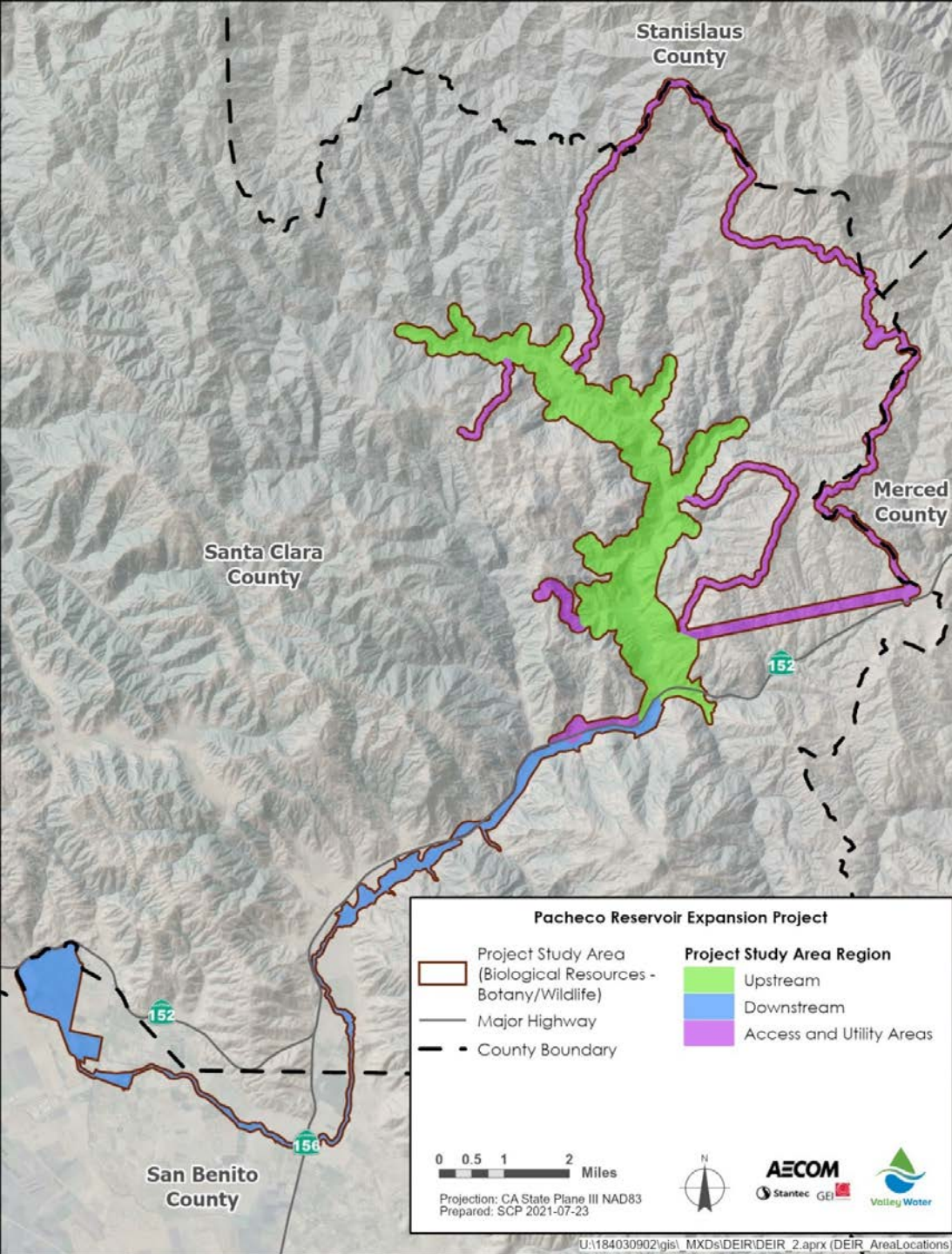
Pictured: Map of the Biological Resources: Botanical/Wildlife Project Study Area

Draft EIR Biological Resources

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Draft EIR Studies

- Desktop and Field Studies
 - Upstream and downstream (blue and green)
- Desktop only
 - Access/Utility (purple)
- Types
 - Habitat mapping
 - Aquatic delineation (Fed/State)
 - Special-status botanical
 - Special-status wildlife (non-protocol level)
 - Bald & Golden Eagle

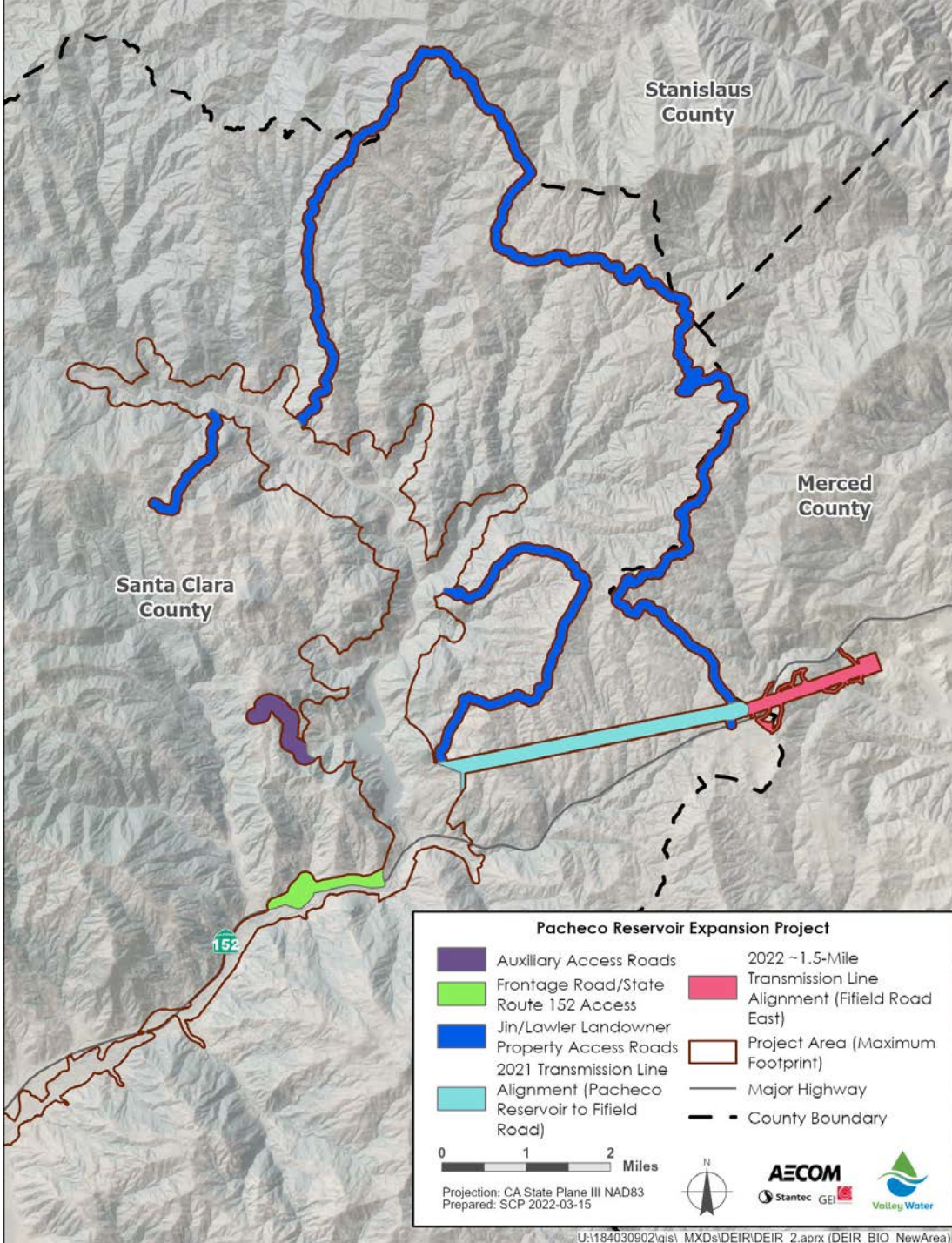


Pending Field Investigations Biology 19

Focused on Access and Utility Areas

- Verification of desk-top vegetation mapping
- Aquatic Resources Delineations
- Botanical Surveys
- Habitat Assessment for California red-legged frog and California tiger salamander

Schedule: Primarily 2022 field season with some botany surveys anticipated in 2023

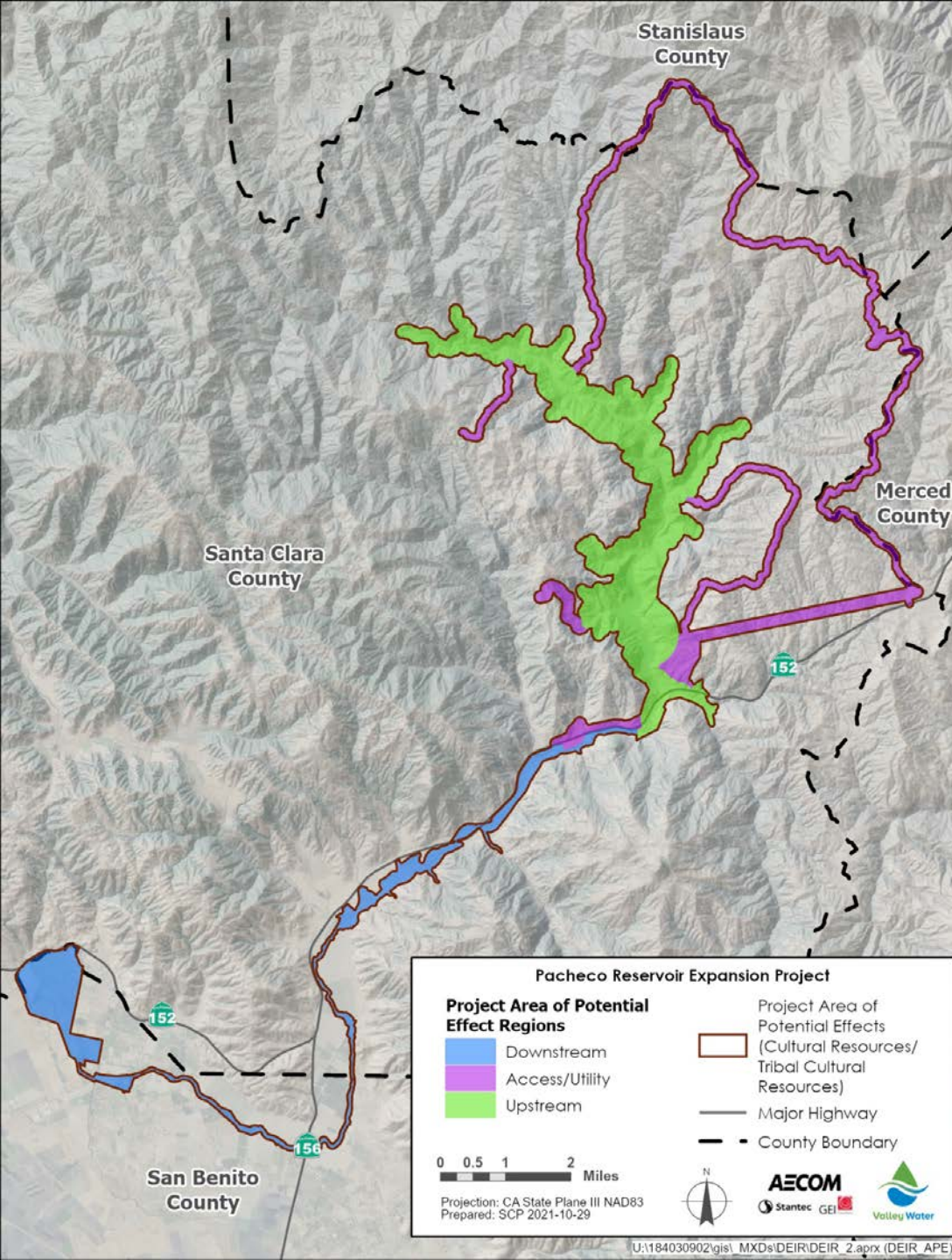


Draft EIR

Cultural and Tribal Resources

Draft EIR Studies

- Records Search
 - Upstream, downstream, and Access/Utility (green, blue, and purple)
- Pedestrian surveys
 - Upstream (green)
- Testing and Evaluation
 - Portion of Upstream (green)



Pending Field Investigations Cultural/Tribal

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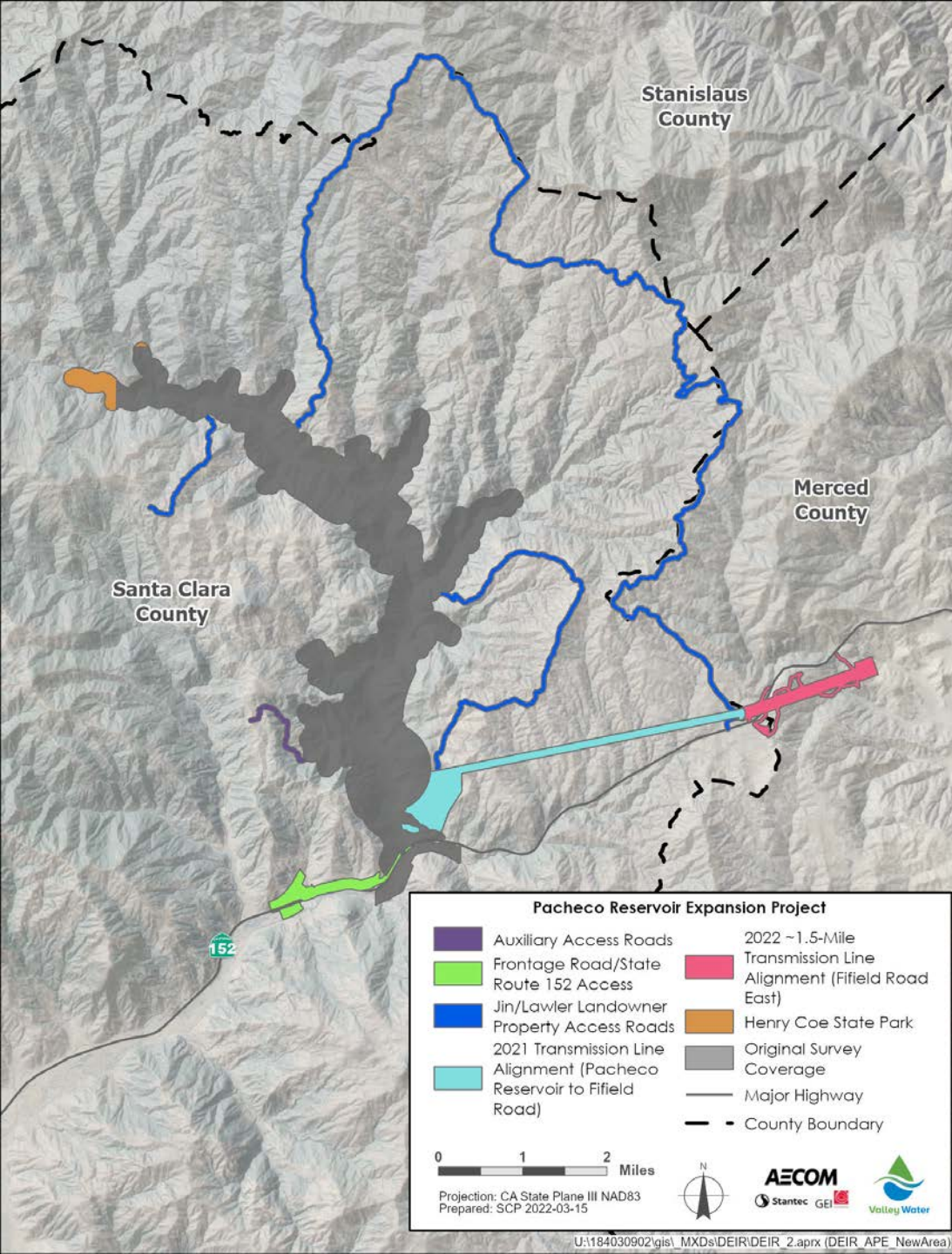
Desktop and Field Investigations

- Records Search
 - Powerline extension area (red/pink)
- Pedestrian surveys
 - Access/Utility Area (all colors)
- Testing and Evaluation
 - Access/Utility Area (all colors)

Schedule:

Records Search/Pedestrian Surveys – 2022

Testing and Evaluation - 2023



Tribal Cultural Resources

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- Engagement with non-federally recognized tribal organizations through California Assembly Bill 52 process
- 10 non-Federally recognized tribal organizations were identified by Native America Heritage Commission/contacted
- 3 tribes requested consultation under AB 52
 - Amah Mutsun Tribal Band
 - Indian Canyon Mutsun Band of Costanoan
 - Ohlone Indian Tribe

Geotechnical and Sediment Investigations

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- Areas within reservoir construction/inundation footprint
- Areas associated with access routes and powerlines
- Areas associated with proposed SR 152 interchange
- Areas between existing dam and new dam requiring sediment removal/management

Considerations for EPA





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Pacheco Reservoir Expansion Project

DEIR

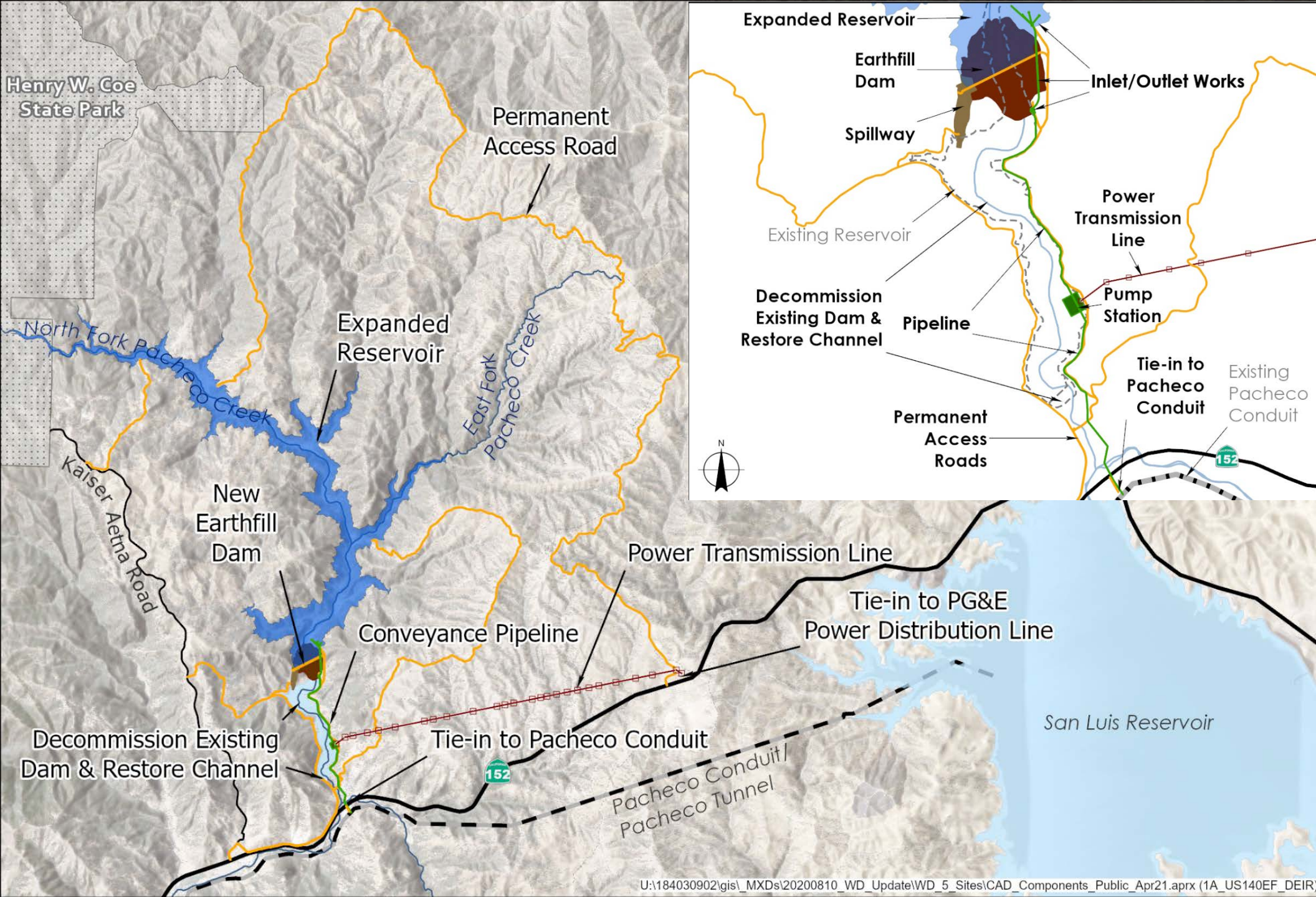
Alternative A

Upstream

Earthfill Dam

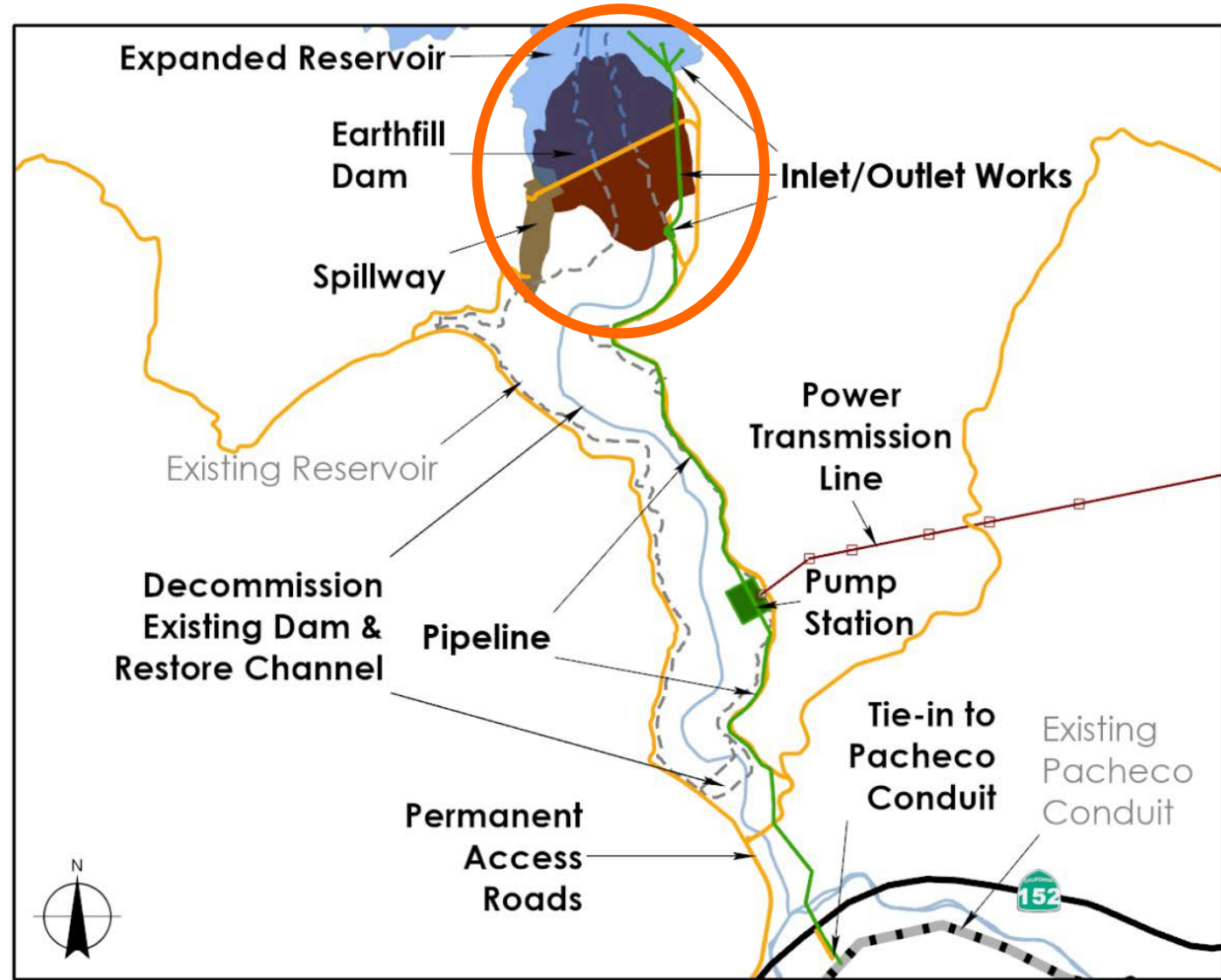
140 TAF

Reservoir



Upstream, Earthfill Dam Refinements

- Increased level of analysis/detail
- **Inlet/outlet works** located on west abutment instead of east abutment (shown in green)
- Minor adjustment to **spillway** alignment (shown in brown)
- Minor adjustments to **roads near dam** (shown in orange)

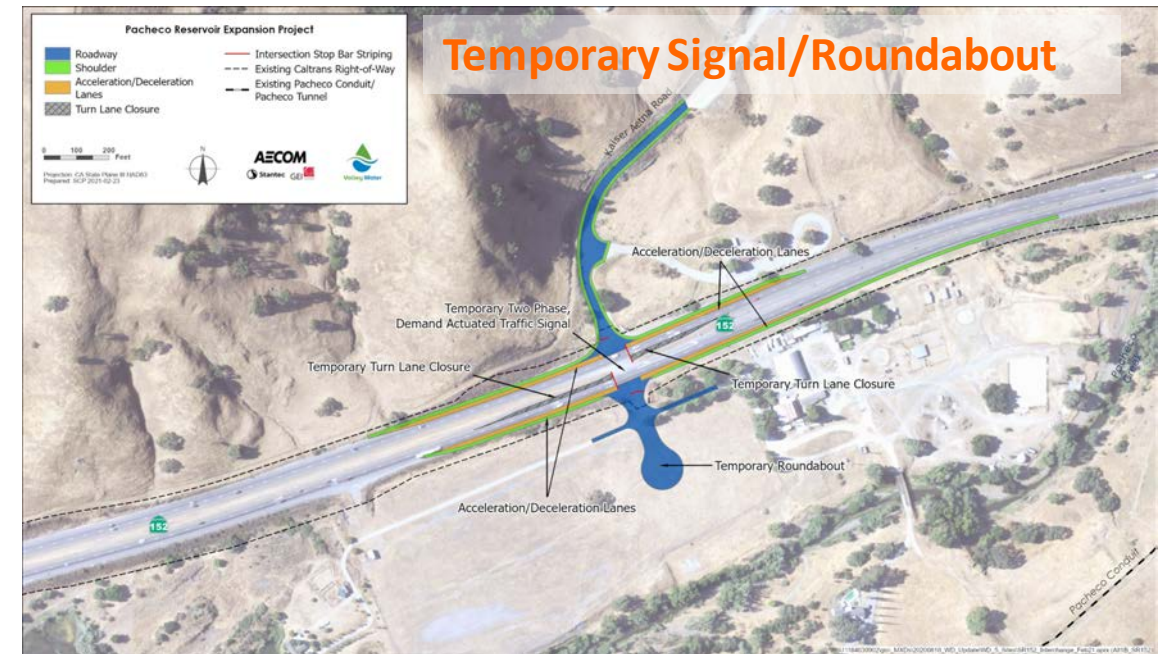
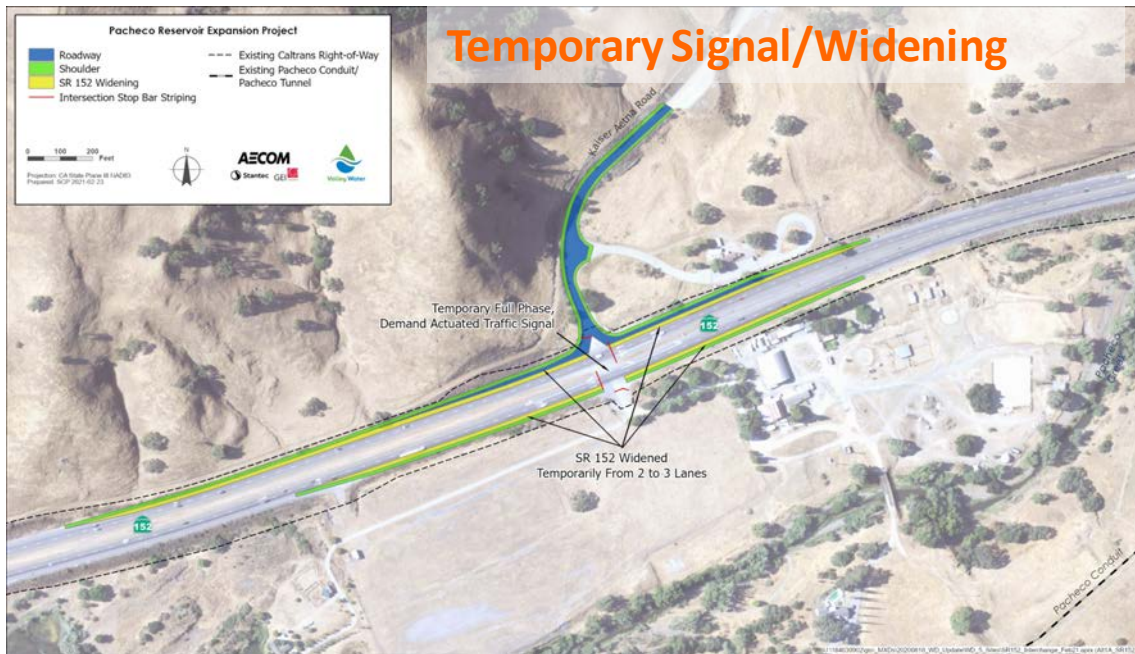
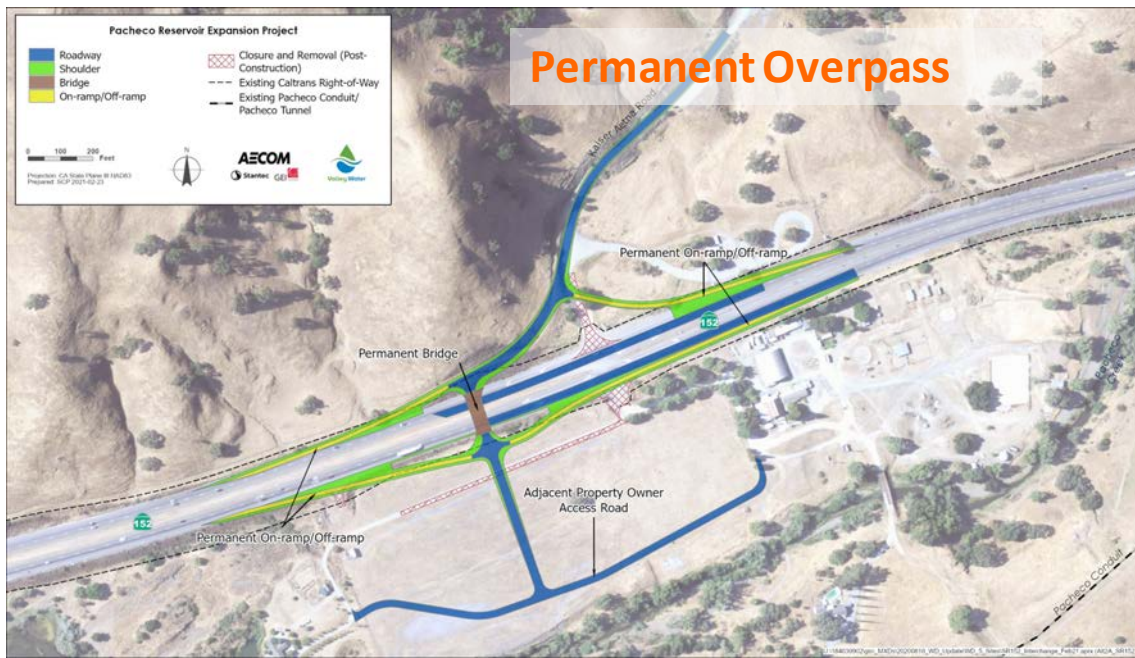


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State Route 152 Access Improvements

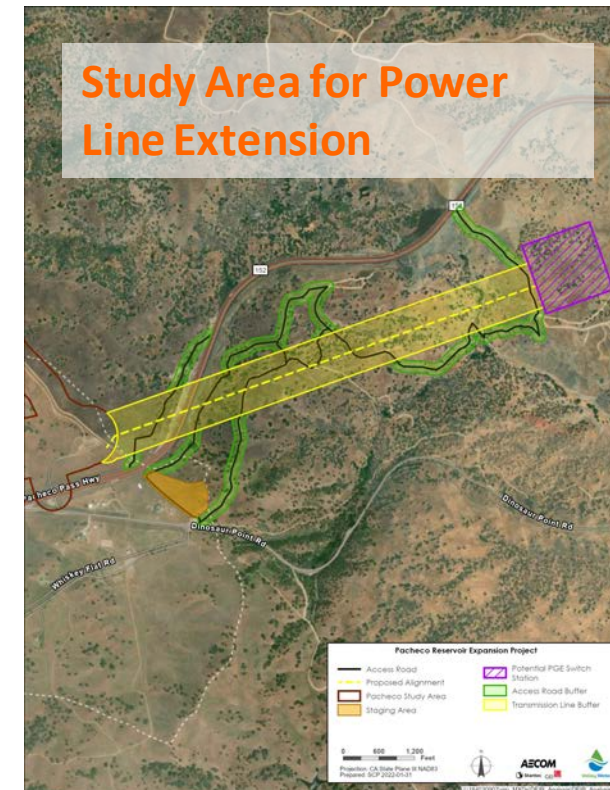
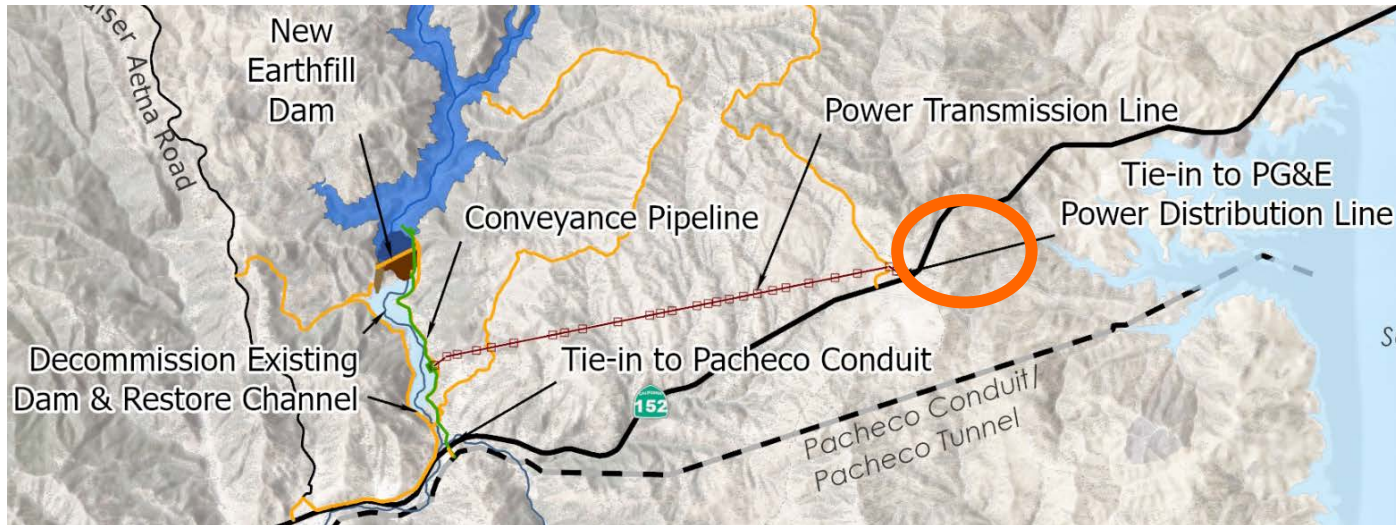


- Four options including at-grade and overpass
- 1 permanent option, 3 temporary option
- Caltrans process expected to identify preferred alternative in 2023 (Caltrans)



Powerline Extension to East

- Draft EIR considered 4.2 miles of new 70 Kv transmission line
- PG&E study resulted in extension of powerline 1.5 miles to east
- PGE process may identify alternative corridor to that identified in DEIR
- Requires CPUC approval for construction and operation



How the Project will be Operated



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